

Radio Free Europe

BBC Keeps an Eye on Conventions; Lloyd's Looks Warily at U.S. Cities

By Karl E. Meyer

Washington Post Foreign Service

LONDON—Whatever its effect on national digestion, the traditional English breakfast will be enriched by American politics when the Republicans meet in Miami. BBC will televise convention highlights from Tuesday through Friday at 7:50 to 9 a.m. Morning television is otherwise seldom shown in Britain, a circumstance that does aid breakfast digestion.

The BBC's man in Miami will be Richard Francis, a 38-year-old Yorkshireman and Oxford graduate whose title is Projects Editor of Current Affairs. Francis will also be in charge of a vast media consortium organized for the European Broadcasting Union. He will supervise the packaging of a daily 30-minute summary of highlights that will be beamed to 40 television companies in 30 countries.

In Britain, the 30-minute summary will be shown twice with a linking commentary filling out the time. The commentary is essential if only to translate such American English terms as "dark horse" and "favorite son" into English English.

Besides this daily report, the two showcase BBC news shows, "Panorama" and "Twenty-four hours," will be broadcasting direct from the two conventions. Delegates may get a glimpse of Robin Day, Britain's best-known television inquisitor, who is something like Huntley, Brinkley and Seavereid mixed into one. Day can be immediately spotted by his exchanging how tie, and by his misleadingly bland smile.

ANOTHER BRITON who is casting a cool eye on America's potentially hot summer is Ralph Hiscox, the chairman of Lloyd's. The

take any risks, but the threat of nationwide racial riots have given them pause.

"America is easily our biggest and best client," Hiscox explained in an interview. "We like Americans. But I think there will be a little bit of reluctance to underwrite what you call ghetto areas in American cities."

Roughly half of Lloyd's annual premium income of \$150 million comes from the United States. Much of this is for reinsurance of policies issued in America by American companies. A special problem is that American insurance companies are often subject to state rate control, which inhibits rates from rising to a level that underwriters feel is realistic.

"Put it this way," said Hiscox. "The art of underwriting is to anticipate events while state regulatory officials tend to use past experience as a basis for rates." But Hiscox adds that Lloyd's is not involving itself in the American debate over insurance; it is only concerned with the consequences.

The riot problem comes at a bad time for Lloyd's, whose global returns in 1965 and 1966 showed the lowest profit margins since returns were first compiled in 1948. Hurricanes, floods, marine and aviation disasters have contributed to what Chairman Hiscox calls "an extremely bad patch" for underwriters.

A pleasant and sensibly plainspoken man, Hiscox recently visited Washington for the first time, and met and was impressed by Mr. Justice Abe Fortas. The Associate Justice's present troubles are being sympathetically followed in the board room of Lloyd's.

ABSENCE HAS NOT noticeably made Ajan Winnington feel any more tenderly about the country that has denied him a passport for 14 years. Winnington

the Daily Worker and is now the Morning Star.

Though there were dark hints that Winnington aided in the interrogation of British prisoners, no such formal charge was ever made public. In 1954, Winnington's British passport was impounded. No reason was given.

A hard-bitten orthodox Communist who now lives in East Berlin, Winnington applied again a few weeks ago—and was finally given a British passport. Why? He told me he believes that he was helped by a recent related controversy over the government's seizure of passports held by Britons living in Rhodesia. He feels that the government would rather give him back a passport than face a row in which its almost absolutist powers in this area could be challenged.

The only thing Winnington was told, when he asked why the government had relented, was "It's been long enough."

In any event, after 14 years living in Peking and East Germany, Winnington finds little to commend in swinging Britain. The beer is still bad, the economy is still being mismanaged and British men are among "the worst dressed in the world—their suits look baggy and shapeless, as if they were tailored for somebody else." Furthermore, they have miniskirts in East Berlin, "though not quite so high."

He returns to East Germany in a few weeks. Ironically, he may be best remembered in this country for his attempt to vindicate his British civil liberties by forcing the government to behave less like a Communist regime. Asked if he did not feel a certain anomaly in his claiming rights that were routinely denied in Eastern Europe, he flared back, "Not at all. I am a British subject."

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UNITED STATES

WINNINGTON, Alan

Aug 23, 51

Winnington's Newsman

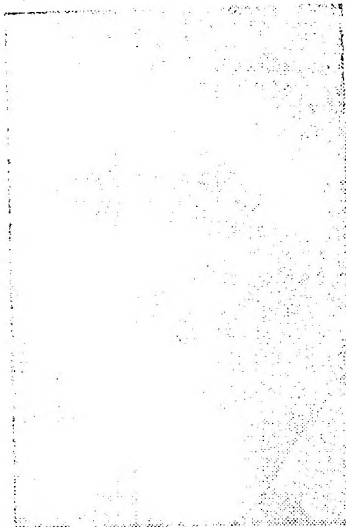
Don't Go Home Again

WINNINGTON, Alan, Staff Writer

WIN, Aug. 22—The men of mystery at the Kaesong peace talks are the two British correspondents who turned up on the Commie side and since have seemed to be the Reds' chosen in the town for trying to subvert the UN press corps.

The names, dissimilar Communist agents, could not be imagined.

Alan Winnington, Peking correspondent for the London Daily Worker, is from a wealthy English family. Somewhere along the line he received a virulent hate for the Reds and now rants and raves like Daily Worker editorials. His attitude is essential to his Communist mission. He thrusts his opinions forward and never is unwary in conversation. He spews forth his opinions and never fool or convince



ALAN WINNINGTON

The other is Wilfred Burchette, an American-born correspondent for a French leftist daily. Burchette is a good type. His family background must have been good middle class, like the majority of Americans he meets.

He seldom raises his voice. His characteristic method of address is to take your arm and try to draw you aside. He seems to be saying, "See here, old chap. We're on opposite sides right now, but when you know a little more you'll see things my way. Meanwhile, it pains me not to be accepted by my old friends."

Both men know they can't go home again.

CONDOUNED BY COMMONS

Winnington has been denounced as a traitor on the floor of Commons. But if the knowledge that the British regard him as a traitor does not show him inside, he doesn't show it.

Burchette has been warned that he will be jailed if he ever returns to America. But he doesn't admit to being a Communist and he pretends to think that eventually the misunderstanding between himself and his homeland will be cleared up.

Both men spout the Communist line with all its twists and turns.

TRY MANUFACTURE IT

In fact, it isn't clear but they may have something to do with manufacturing the line. Brig. Gen. H. H. Nichols, the UN briefings officer, believes that Winnington is one of Gen. Nam II's men. The round, rolling, Englishman is too British upper class to be associated with an American. Others think Winnington is a Communist agent.

ing that each morning they are briefed by a junior officer, or by a senior Red if the issues are major.

The two live in a camp outside Kaesong and apparently share the Chinese diet of rice, millet and gruel. Winnington boasts that the Koreans have developed a non-smelling version of "kimchi," their national dish of rotted vegetables and fish. He says it's "simply delicious," a trick of self-deception.

that only a Communist zealot could take pride in.

PAPER: MANCHESTER GUARDIAN

CITY: LONDON

DATE: MAR 14 1955

MR WINNINGTON EXPLAINS

"Duty to the British"

PEKING, MARCH 13.

Mr Alan Winnington, a British journalist whose activities in China and Korea have brought allegations of treason against him in the House of Commons, has said that all that he has done is "his duty to the British people." Referring to the Korean war, he declared: "I make no apologies for whatever small part I played in exposing that 'fake police' action."

On the private member's treason bill now before the House Mr Winnington said that its purpose was to make opposition to any war started by America illegal.

"Traitors are going to be ten a penny if the private member's bill goes through Parliament, converting all 'enemies of the United Nations' into 'enemies of the Queen.' The bill itself is a muddle. It liberally transfers allegiance of British subjects from the Crown to the United Nations; on the other side, it admits that I and four others who visited the British troops in Korea were not committing treason. It therefore admits that whoever the British were fighting in Korea it was not the 'Queen's enemies.'"

After presenting arguments on the legality of the United Nations action in Korea, Mr Winnington continued:

"I had an excellent reason for opposing the Korean war. My duty to the British people was to expose the situation there—and I did so. This treason bill is not aimed at me or Burchett, Shapiro, Gaster, or Felton. The target is bigger—even bigger than the whole British public."

"The background is the Formosa situation. It is not a coincidence that this bill was tabled just as Eden and Dulles returned from their very private talks in Bangkok. And it is also no coincidence that Dulles let the world know his policy of linking South Korea, Japan, Formosa, Philippines, Indo-China, and Siam into a ring of war bases existing against China."

"This bill is to make opposition illegal to any war started by America and illegally pushed through the United Nations General Assembly with the help of 'Powers' like Guatemala. It seems part of a new pattern of colonialism that is developing under pressure of independence movements, especially those in Asia."

—British United Press

JUL 26 1951

Kassong

KAESONG, Wednesday.

A BRITISH and an Australian journalist jumped out of a jeep here today, and were immediately besieged by United Nations reporters.

They said they had spent a week travelling from Peking by train and lorry, but had "pottered around" because of the four-day break in the talks.

The Briton, 41-year-old Alan Winnington, represents the Daily Worker, and the Australian 39-year-old Wilfred (Peter) Burchett, a former Daily Express staff man, is covering the talks for the Paris newspaper Ce Soir.

Winnington told correspondents: "The feeling in China is that difficulties standing in the way of a cease-fire will be ironed out.

"I can assure you there is a sincere desire for peace in China."

Winnington, who spoke quietly, remained unruffled during long questioning.

Asked about recent large-scale trials in China, Winnington said it was not correct to describe them as mass trials or purges.

POOR ON TOP

"Thugs, robbers, murderers, criminals and hangers-on of the old regime are simply being winkled out—mostly by the people themselves," he said.

"They are first tried individually by a normal court and then they face a public court where people can speak against them, or for them for that matter."

Burchett, who said he was not a Communist, is writing a book called "China Turns Over."

The title derived from a current peasant colloquialism and meant literally that the poor man was now on top.

He said the present line of the Chinese Government was strong for peace.

"I sincerely believe they want to end all war."

'UNFORTUNATE'

Asked how he felt about covering a war with his own countrymen fighting on the other side, Winnington replied:

"My first feeling is that it was extremely unfortunate that these men should have been sent to this war.

"My second thought is to help them as much as I can.

"I have been doing that by collecting messages for their families in Britain and getting my paper to deliver them.

"I don't want to say any more about it as it is a personal matter."

"I am a war correspondent. I have to go where the war takes me," he said.

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K O R E A

Aug. 1, 1952

NEW ROX CHIEF OF STAFF ASSUMES OFFICE

Pusan, in Korean to Korea, July 31, 1952, 1115 GMT--B

(Text)

Lt. Gen. Paek Sun Yop, who has been newly appointed as Army Chief of Staff to succeed Lt. Gen. Lee Chang Chan, issued the following statement upon his assumption of office:

"Considering the overwhelmingly heavy responsibilities as a successor to Gen. Lee, who has made many great achievements during the past year, and my lack of experience and youth, I told the President on several occasions of my inability to hold the post. However, as the President finally ordered my appointment, I am determined to do my best to fulfill these responsibilities by making use of my experience, during the past 25 months, both in combat and at the armistice negotiations.

"The difficulties which lie ahead of us can be overcome if the officers and men of the National Defense Forces demonstrate unity and joint efforts. As in the case of every officer and man of the National Defense Forces, I will do my best to fulfill my duties as a soldier."

WINNINGTON DESCRIBES EFFECTS OF NAPALM

Peking, WONA, in English Morse to Europe and North America, July 31, 1952, 1535 GMT--W

(Text)

Peking, July 31--For several weeks I have been investigating the use and effects of napalm, writes Alan Winnington, London DAILY WORKER correspondent in Korea. He continues:

I have visited many people who have been burned with this monstrous concoction--both new cases and old ones. The facts that I am going to give are horrifying, but they must be told. People who may be shocked must try to imagine what it is like to see these sights and then imagine their own loved ones or themselves as victims.

Napalm is jellified petrol which splashes over a wide area, sticks to whatever it touches and goes on burning. When it sticks to the skin, it literally cooks the flesh and tissues below. Many people die horribly from burns and shock, and still more survive as walking monstrosities sickened by their own images.

- EAE 2 -

KOREA

Aug. 1, 1952

... on working long after its first effects are healed--for how long is as yet not known. The area of burns becomes a mass of varicolored tissue which the victims constantly watch in terror for signs of new danger. When the scars break again, they are usually infected and yellow pus again starts to pour from them. Slowly they heal again in most cases, though in many they become chronic open wounds.

When they reheel they draw up the flesh, so that the scar area constantly contracts. The effect of this is to twist and warp the body, crippling the victim. The hands become drawn backward like the claws of birds, eyelids are pulled up and down, leaving bulbous eyeballs staring, apparently terrified, from wide red frames of the out-turned eyeball itself. Many victims who can still see have little spots on the eyeball. That is the shadow of inevitable blindness. They know nothing can be done. The days when they can still see the world are irrevocably numbered.

The tragedy of the victims, especially women, when they first see their mutilations after healing, cannot be described. They want to die, they beg to be allowed to die. Some wait patiently until they leave the hospital, and their first act is suicide. Napalm scars never become painless. They always itch and burn, making sleep impossible for more than a short time. People burned on the face normally have to try to sleep with their eyes open, since the eyelids will not close. In summertime the irritation of scars drives the victims frantic for relief that cannot come. Burned little children become petulant, sleepless, impossible to soothe.

Australian airmen are reported to have adapted rockets to carry napalm. Rockets are often used for surprise attacks on villages, using fast planes whose speed denies the villages any warning of approach. Normally, napalm is dropped in thin-cased bombs which spread liquid fire over a large area, acting as both an incendiary and antipersonnel weapon. It is a monstrous soul-destroying device that puts its user beyond the pale of human society.

PEOPLE OF KOREA HAIL PLA ANNIVERSARY

Pyongyang, in Korean to Korea, July 31, 1952, 2230 GMT--B

(Commentary: "The 25th Anniversary of the Founding of the Chinese People's Liberation Army")

(Summary)

Today all the Korean people are sharing the joy of the Chinese people on the occasion of the anniversary of the founding of the Chinese People's Liberation Army.

PAP R: DAILY WORKER

TITLE:

CITY: LONDON

DATE: June 25, 1949

China

ALAN WINNINGTON, formerly on the staff of the Daily Worker, has just arrived back in London after 18 months in Liberated China.

Daily Worker readers will have the opportunity of hearing his on-the-spot impressions of the stirring events taking place there at a public meeting at St. Pancras Town Hall on Wednesday, July 6, at 7.30 p.m.



Mr. Winnington has spoken with Mao Tse-tung and many other of the leading figures of the Chinese Revolution and has seen at close quarters the development of the mighty campaigns of the Chinese People's Liberation Army and the work of reconstruction.

Don't miss this opportunity. Send today for tickets, 6d. each, to: Publisher's Department, Daily Worker, 15, Abchurch Lane, London, E.C. 4.

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